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A.—Some receiving sets and loud speakers may, if funds permit, be provided by this Government in a limited number of towns and large villages within effective receiving range of the Government of India's medium wave station when it is established.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I ask whether the scheme has made any progress and at what stage the scheme stands to-day? "

The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN:—" I had some discussion about this matter in Delhi when I was there; the Government of India British Broadcasting Expert has just arrived and after consultation with him I hope that some definite progress will be made."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether it is the intention of the Government to open radio stations in towns and municipalities first? "

The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN:—" The British Broadcasting Expert is expected to come to Madras and after consultation with him, it will be possible to give a more definite answer."

Local Self-Government

Consultation with the District Collector and the Finance Department prior to the bifurcation of a district board.

* 553 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the District Collector concerned and the Finance Department of the Government are consulted before the bifurcation of each district board;

(*b*) if so, what remarks each of them offered in regard to the bifurcation of Tanjore, Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Guntur and North Arcot District Boards; and

(*c*) whether copies of them will be placed on the table?

A.—The Government are not prepared to furnish the information.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" It is stated that the Government are not prepared to furnish the information. May I know what difficulties there are in doing so? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" It is confidential and in public interests, it cannot be published."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" What is the real objection to furnish the simple answer to clause (*a*) of the question whether the District Collector concerned and the Finance Department were consulted before the bifurcation of these district boards? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" There is no particular rule that the District Collector should be consulted. Whenever we want any special information on the main question of bifurcation, we call for the information."

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Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I am not asking for any information which the Government may have; I want to know what the procedure that is normally followed is in such cases before a decision is arrived at?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" Each case is examined by various departments of Government."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" Will the Hon. the Minister be pleased to state whether the Government did or did not consult the District Collector and the Finance Department in the case of the bifurcation of the district boards of Tanjore, Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Guntur and North Arcot?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I am not prepared to answer."

11-15 a.m. Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" May I know where this vicious circle is going to take us? Will it take us to the policy of introducing the taluk boards?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I am not aware what the hon. Member means by 'vicious circle'."

Proposals for amalgamation of two district boards for the purpose of trifurcation.

* 554 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are proposals to combine two district boards and then divide them into three district boards; and if so, what they are and what the reasons therefor are;

(*b*) if so, whether there are any proposals to introduce such a combination and division anywhere in this province; and what the districts are which are to be experimented upon in this way; and

(*c*) what the special reasons are for such a course?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) & (*c*) Do not arise.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I ask whether such a course was ever contemplated?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" No such proposal was contemplated by the Government."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" My question is whether such a course was ever contemplated?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I have already answered the question."